

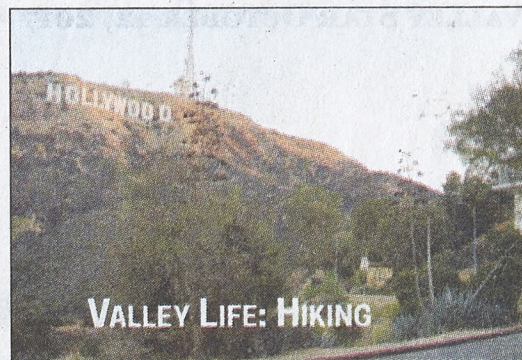
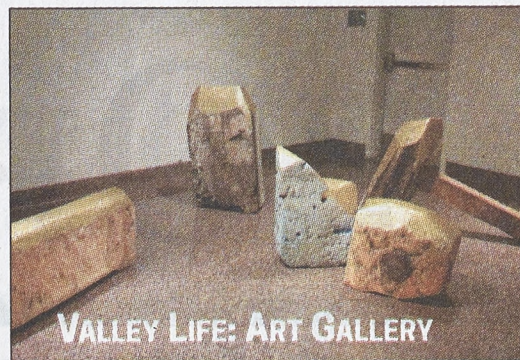
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Mallas escapes Vegas massacre



PHOTO BY/ GETTY IMAGES

TRAGIC SHOOTING—Victims comfort one another after the fatal shootings of over 50 people during a country music concert in the Las Vegas Village.

By SAVANNAH SIMMONS
STAFF WRITER

News reports say the majority of festival attendees hailed from California for this carefree music filled weekend turned nightmare and of all those Californians, one of them was Valley College's own head baseball coach Dave Mallas.

Mallas has been the head baseball coach for going on 14 seasons at Valley and was at the Route 91 Harvest Festival celebrating his wife, Ginger's, birthday when the tragic events occurred. In a 22-minute interview with KPAY Sports, Mallas spoke about his escape from the festival, how he

helped a man a wheelchair, connected with his family, and got back to his two children the next day.

"Going from what we thought were fireworks, we started running," said Mallas describing his pathway out of harm's way. "We went into one of those vendor booths. Time is pretty wild when you're in the midst of it. It seemed like a while but it was probably only about 30 seconds." As Mallas was taking cover in a booth, then running to an exit, Stephan Paddock, a 64-year-old resident of Nevada, was unloading multiple rounds from an automatic assault rifle into the crowd of 22,000 people below gathered for the country music festival. His shoot-

ing spree killed 58 and wounded 527, making this the deadliest mass shooting in the United States.

Festival goers had to quickly climb fences and take shelter behind barricades of whatever they could find to try and stay safe from the 8-10 minute spray of bullets landing all around them. With the help of another attendee, Mallas lifted a man in a wheelchair over a barricade while everyone around them were pushing and shoving behind them. Up on the 32nd floor of the Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino, Paddock shattered the windows and began shooting across the way into the Las Vegas Village where country music fans watched Jason Aldean perform the last songs

of the night as he was the festival's closing act. Videos circulating social media and being aired on the news show masses of people running and ducking for their lives as gunshots endlessly go off and shrieks of pain and terror are heard.

The Hooters Hotel served as a safe locked down area where people could stay until the police searched the scene and shut down the entire strip for the remainder of the night. This is where he found his sister-in-law and ended up in a room with about 15 other people who were welcomed by two guys just trying to help. Mallas' brother then picked them up and took them to their parents' house to stay the

night and be with family.

"We've been watching this for decades," said Mallas talking about the other mass shootings in the past. "You see chaos ensuing and you wonder what it was like and what they must be going through. We're part of U.S. history."

The last deadliest shooting in the United States happened only 16 months ago at the Pulse night club where 49 people were killed.

"In a crisis moment, just like when you're on the field, you're gonna act a certain way in stressful moments," Mallas said. "The more you're prepared the more you're probably going to be able to handle it appropriately."

ASU plans Vote

The ASU is urging Valley students to get out and vote.

By LON DOMINGUEZ
NEWS EDITOR

Valley College will hold a special election this month to fill seats in the Associated Student Union left vacant in the previous Spring semester.

"Current ASU board members have taken on the responsibilities of vacant positions," said Monica Gonzalez, co-adviser for the ASU, "they are doing a great job and hopefully once elections are over the ASU will have a full board."

The elections will be held on Oct. 18 and 19 in two different time blocks, one from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and another from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. each day at Monarch Hall to ensure that both day and night students have a chance to vote.

According to Kiran Mehr, Commissioner of Political and External Affairs, there are six positions available with two to four candidates running for each, with the exception of vice-president and the Commissioner of Health and Safety which both have one candidate running unopposed. The candidates are Margarita Arzoumanian and Valery Gonda, respectively.

A debate between the remaining candidates was scheduled for Oct. 9 at 1 p.m. in the Student Union Plaza.

The lack of qualified candidates last semester resulted in several positions being left unfilled including both the offices of the president and vice-president. This has left the current ASU treasurer, engineering student Joseph Katona, serving as the de facto head of the ASU.

"I would take over the president position and drop the treasurer position if they would let me," said Katona in a previous interview the Valley Star.

An issue last semester causing vacant seats was a lack of potential candidates that met the requirements to run for office. To serve in the ASU a student must attend classes full time, which, when coupled with the responsibilities of serving in office, can be daunting for many full-time students.

Katona also feels that there has been a lack of awareness about the possibility of running for the ASU that has led to the low participation rates but is looking to rectify this by making face to face connections with students.

Vegas shooting another in long line of statistics

After another tragic mass shooting, America examines its long and tortured relationship with guns and gun violence.

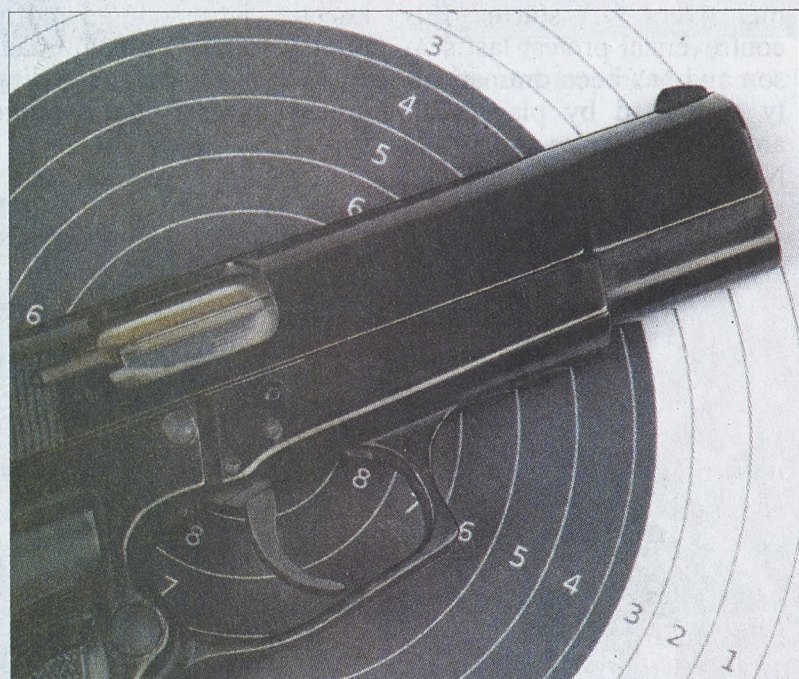


PHOTO BY / PUBLIC DOMAIN

NEWS ANALYSIS

By AKI TAKASHIRO AND
SOLOMON SMITH
STAFF WRITERS

the tragic mass shooting in Las Vegas, gun control promptly came to the forefront of public discourse and the statistics continue to underline the dangers.

The number of instances of gun violence in the

United States is a continuing problem. According to the Gun Violence Archive, a nonprofit corporation which tracks firearm-related incidents, 46,759 gun-related incidents have already happened in the U. S. since Jan. 1 2017. Of those shootings 273 were mass shootings and incidents involving police. Already 11,743 peo-

ple have been killed by guns, and 23,747 people have been injured—2,987 were minors under the age of 17.

"How many more parents need to bury their children before Congress acknowledges the need to take action to reduce gun violence? #StopTheHate," tweeted Oregon Sen. Jeff Merkley (D).

Merkley's sentiment is one that is often expressed after a terrible event but the statistics remain alarming. Vox reported that there have been more than 1,500 mass shootings and 1, 715 people killed with 6,089 wounded in the U.S. since the Sandy Hook shooting in Connecticut back in December 2012. That mass shooting was one of the biggest in recent years, at the

time, killing 20 children and seven adults, including the shooter.

Recently, according to an article by CNN, the National Rifle Association and congress have agreed to consider legislation on the bump stock (but not banning) that allowed the Vegas slaughter to happen but some think this may not be enough.

When asked about this issue on Megyn Kelly Today, journalist Tom Brockaw put it this way, "We are where we are because of the power of people who wanted these kinds of guns, and the NRA managed to organize them and get them as a political force in America." He goes on to say, "So the question is, if you're not happy with what has happened, your individual obligation as a

citizen is to organize on the other side."

According to a data blog by the Guardian, 270 of 320 million civilians owns a firearm in the United States. This means 88.8 of every 100 people possess a firearm, making America number one in civilian gun ownership, and 28 in the firearm murder rate. There were 9,146 homicides by firearms last year, which is 2.97 per 100,000 of the population. That is six times as many homicides as Canada, and 297 times as many as Japan.

For now congress is simply considering the legislation of banning bump stocks but no decisions have yet been made.

OPINION

The time for a gun ban is now, no more talking

After the recent mass shooting in Las Vegas, it is finally time for the United States to start banning firearms.

OPINION BY
GABRIEL ARIZON
SPECIAL TO THE STAR

The recent shooting at a Las Vegas concert that resulted in 58 deaths and almost 500 injuries has earned the undesirable title of 'deadliest mass shooting in modern United States history'; this comes only 16 months after the previous mass shooting at a gay nightclub in Orlando earned that title.

How many more times must this continue before it's decided that enough is enough? How many more times must we see these tragedies play out over the news before we get rid of these weapons? The time for debate has passed at this point. It's finally time for the United States to man up and ban firearms for civilians.

Ever since the Sandy Hook shooting in

December 2012, there have been over 1,500 mass shootings in the United States. One would think that after a shooting in an elementary school that change to current gun laws would happen to prevent such horror from happening again. However, hardly any change came. Organizations like the National Rifle Association have done an effective job of barring most gun legislation from passing.

Every time it is proposed that there be stricter gun laws, those against it are quick to change the conversation, such as blaming the mental health of shooters. While mental health is an issue, that doesn't mean the guns aren't a problem.

The United States is far and away the leader in gun homicides. Forty-two percent of all civilian who own guns in the world are in the United States, even though our popula-

tion is only 4.4 percent of the world's population. As a result, U.S. Homicides are almost six times higher than Canada, and nearly four times higher than Switzerland, another country that loves its guns. In 2015, there was an average of at least one mass shooting every day in America. There is an average of 12,000 gun homicides every year, and 62 percent of gun-related deaths are suicide.

Even with these numbers, pro-gun organizations zealously push against any sort of reform that could limit gun sales. Despite the fact that mass shootings are becoming more frequent in daily news, the likes of the NRA waste no time in pointing the finger in a different direction. Any time a discussion tries to happen on how to limit guns, it ends up in a dead end, and we are left with little to no improvement.

It is time for Congress to step up and take hard action. With the exception of law enforcement, and the military, we need to start banning the possession of firearms. From assault rifles to semi-automatics to handguns, we need to stop them from causing more tragedies. While it won't stop gun violence entirely, it would be a big leap in decreasing the number of deaths by firearm.

Japan has a very low number of gun owners due to a 1958 law prohibiting the possession of firearms. Due in part to that law, there were only six reported gun deaths in 2014. That is an absurdly low number, and it is one that we should strive towards.

We have tried to talk, but time for talking is over, and the time banning firearms is now, before Las Vegas happens again.

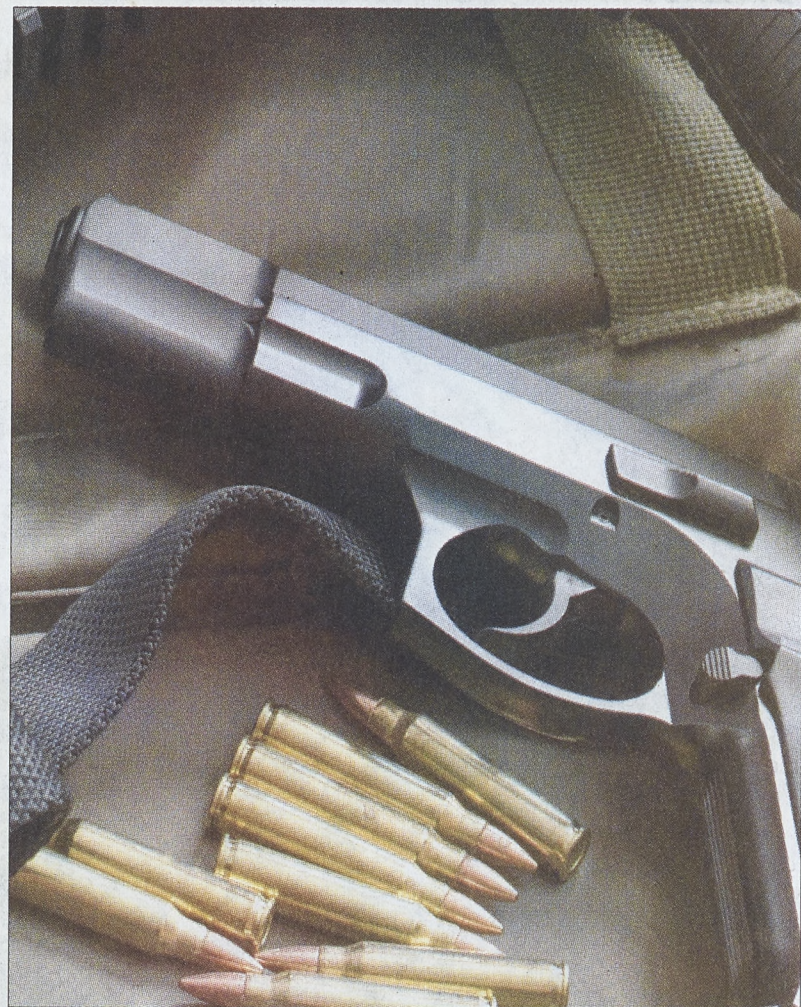


PHOTO BY/ Stock

GUNS- Recent shootings make it clear it is time to discuss gun bans.

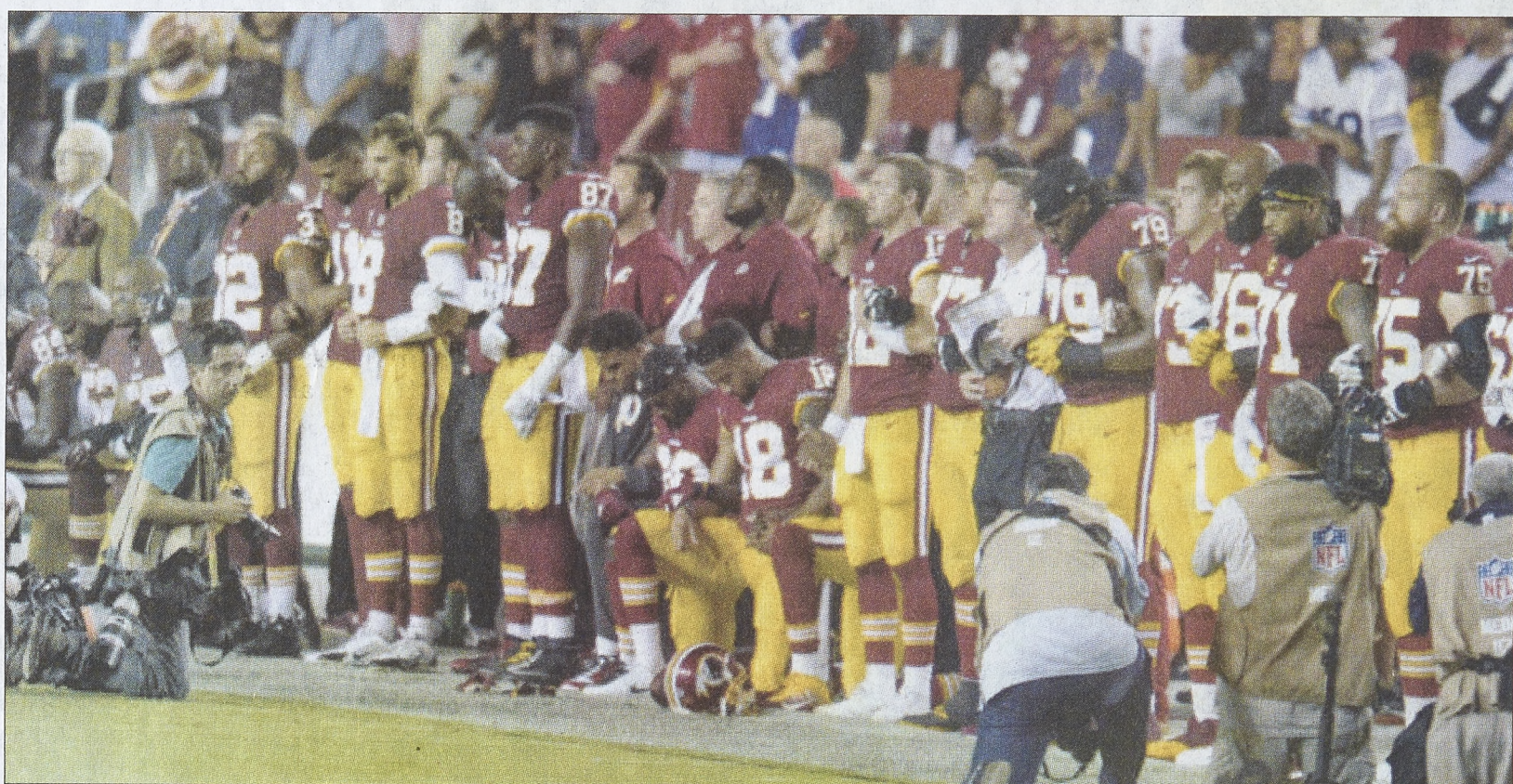


PHOTO PUBLIC DOMAIN

NFL unites against President Trump

Trump's comments spur the NFL to join the protest against police brutality throughout the country.

OPINION BY
EMMANUEL CORDOVA

There has been significant growth in the amount of NFL players, teams, and owners that are joining in protest against Trump's divisive words. But after Vice President Mike Pence leav-

ing the Colts' game due to the players protest, Cowboys Owner Jerry Jones is changing his view on how his team should handling the silence protest.

At the rally, Trump said, "Wouldn't you love to see one of these NFL owners, when somebody disrespects

our flag, to say, 'Get that son of a bitch off the field right now. He is fired. He's fired!'" Trump was in Alabama campaigning for Luther Strange who lost the Republican Senate primary.

Vice President Mike Pence followed a command by Trump to leave a Colts'

game on Sunday of week 5 if the players knelt during the anthem.

The President was quick to comment on Pence's exit via Twitter saying, "I asked @VP Pence to leave stadium if any players knelt, disrespecting our country. I am proud of him."

More than half of the NFL teams joined in protest the following Sunday of the third week of the season, by kneeling, sitting, or locking arms with teammates during the national anthem. Some teams like the Seattle Seahawks, Pittsburgh Steelers, and Tennessee Titans stayed in the locker room during the anthem. The Dolphins', Lions', Eagles', Jets', and Chargers' team owners also participated in the protest by locking arms with their players.

On Monday Night Football of week 3, the entire Cowboys team, including owner Jerry Jones, locked arms and knelt during the national anthem as some in the crowd booed.

Jones has since switched sides on the issue claiming, "If there's anything that is disrespectful to the flag, then we will not play."

This warning to his players was shut down by the NFL Players Association in a response Monday. The association along with commissioner Roger Goodell said they will respect the constitutional rights of the players.

Colin Kaepernick the former 49ers QB started this controversial protest last season and has been dramatically supported by players all around the league and in the NBA as well.

Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers commented, "On this team, we're going to keep choosing love over hate, unity over division, and that's what it was to us."

"...He's made the ultimate sacrifice and I respect that whole heartedly," Carolina Panthers quarterback Cam Newton said, "... A person that does have the talent to play, a person that should be in this league, but I feel as if he's not getting his just due because of his views."

Newton brings up a good point—there are some NFL teams that have starting and backup quarterbacks that are not as talented as Kaepernick. Miami Dolphins quarterback Ryan Tannehill injured his knee before that start of the 2017-18 season and the team was in need of a new starting QB.

Kaepernick is one of the top free agent but the Dolphins decided to call Jay Cutler instead. Cutler's quarterback rating last season was 78.1 and Kaepernick's was 90.7, which makes politics the only reason they would choose Cutler over Kap.

Trump's words turned a kneeling issue with a handful of players into a much broader issue of the NFL standing united against his derisive speech.

VALLEY VIEW

If you were the president what would you do about gun control?

By Cesar Martinez with photos by Sebastian Mino-Bucheli



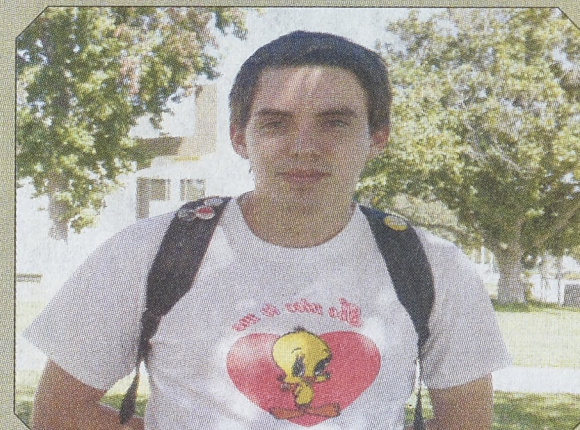
"Trump is more interested in banning Muslims and replacing DACA. The government instead should be researching the people who are getting these guns."

- Alex Kinloch



"I would ban guns just like Australia. They learned from the [Port Arthur] massacre. Comparing countries we seem to be falling behind."

- Gurnoor Sarkaria



"I wouldn't completely ban guns, however there should be more restrictions. The government should limit how many guns you have."

-Kevin Mendoza

VALLEY LIFE

3

One Book One College novel focuses on immigrant sisters' struggle with identity

"How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents" is selected for this year's One Book One College Program.

By AKI TAKASHIRO,
STAFF WRITER

The story of four Dominican sisters who fled their home to the United States for a better life has been selected for the One Book One College Program this year.

"How the Garcia Girls Lost their Accents" tells the tale of four Dominican sisters and their family who escaped from their homeland, the Dominican Republic, during Rafael Trujillo's inhumane dictatorship from 1956 to 1970. The major focus of the story is their struggle as immigrants, acculturation, and confusion of identities. Although this is a fictional story, the author Julia Alvarez, who is Dominican-American,

reveals that it reflects her real-life experiences.

The book was selected as a Notable Book by The New York Times and the American Library Association, and also won the PEN Oakland/Josephine Miles Award for books with a multicultural perspective. Each year, a committee of faculty and staff at each respective school selects a book for their One Book One College Program. The purpose of the program is to encourage students to engage in intellectual conversations and creative activities. Since the faculty from a variety of subjects uses the book in their classes, students can see how different disciplines can be integrated through the same reading

material, according to the Valley News Blog.

"I am very excited to be involved and to help spearhead this program at Valley College," said Michelle Lewis, program coordinator. "I heard about similar programs at other colleges about five years ago, so I am enthusiastic that it has come to Valley."

The One book One College Program plans to hold two events this fall: an Immigration Issues Teach-in on Wednesday Oct. 25 between 1-2 p.m., and a Student Project Showcase on Wednesday, Nov. 29 from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. Both will be held at Monarch Hall. The book is available at the Valley College library for check out.

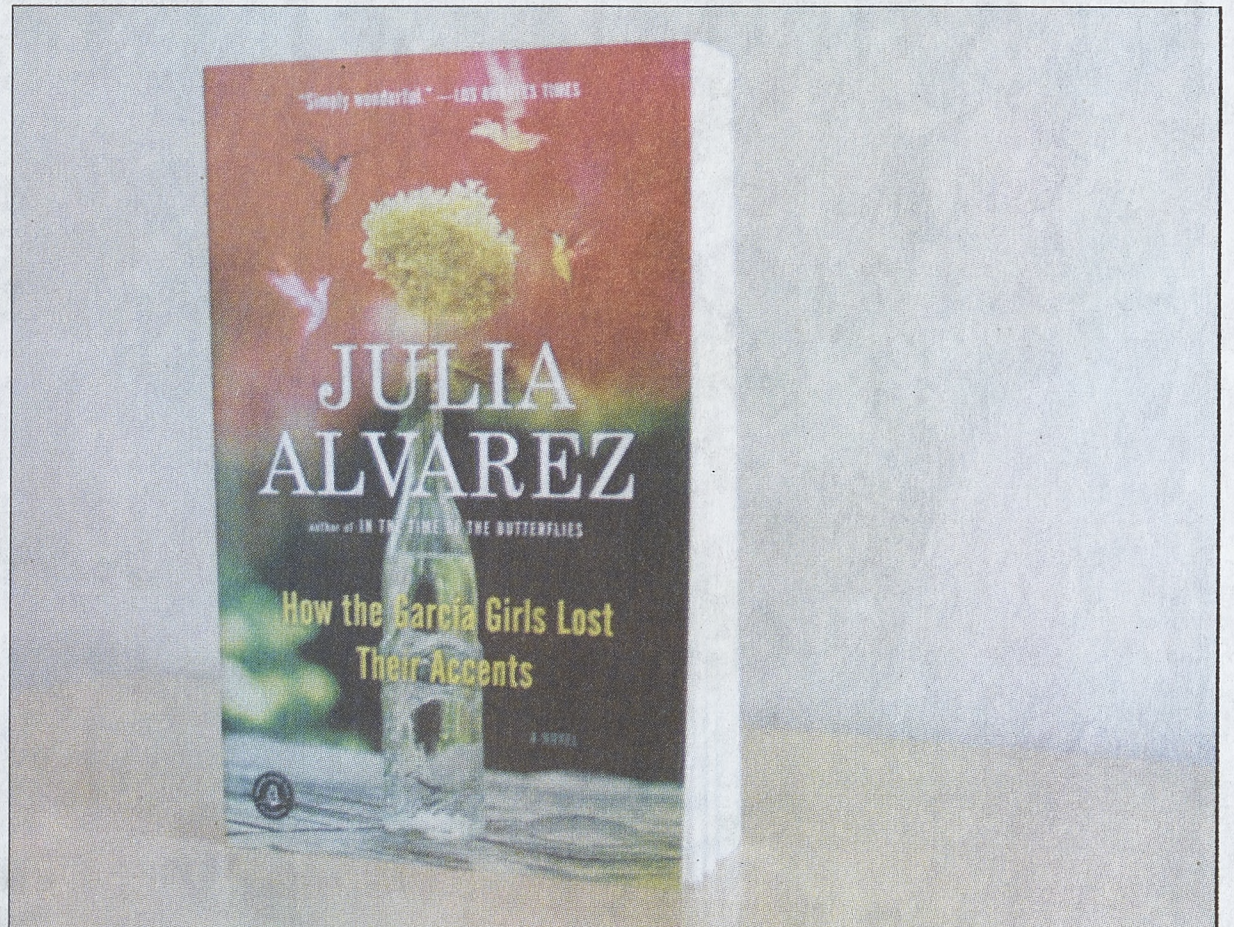


PHOTO BY / SEBASTIAN MINO-BUCHELI

ONEBOOK NOVEL- Julia Alvarez' book uses the story of immigrants as a source of inspiration for readers.

Congressman encourages students to try manufacturing

By JAMIE GARCIA
LONNIE DOMINGUEZ
STAFF WRITERS

Manufacturing businesses will visit Monarch Hall once again to persuade students to enter the modern industrial field.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ABRAHAM HOFFMAN

MANUFACTURING-Students pose for a photo after learning about possible careers in manufacturing.

For the third consecutive year over 25 industrial companies will send their representatives to Monarch Hall to showcase their products in an effort to encourage high school and college students to enter the manufacturing trade and all the opportunities it has to offer. Valley College in partnership with Goodwill Industries of Southern California, known for its many Goodwill stores, and the office of Congressman Tony Cardenas, will be hosting Manufacturing Day on Tuesday, Oct. 17 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Monarch Hall located in the campus center.

According to Roberto Gutierrez, the administrative coordinator for the event, students from several local high schools

will be in attendance in a nation wide effort to encourage more students to consider an industrial trade and to educate them on the skills needed in the modern workforce. "Our mission is to engage, enroll, and employ the next generation of skilled labor," said Gutierrez, "many jobs have left the country but the ones that remain require a high level of skill."

Pathways to Apprenticeship is this year's theme which informs students about the great career opportunities in manufacturing in honor of national manufacturing month. This event features a facility tour, manufacturing expo, and presentations by manufacturing companies with the goal of educating the community on what

modern manufacturing is all about and empowering the manufacturers to take larger roles in the community.

"Throughout my twenty years in public service, and as a former small business owner, my goal has always been to support the growth of small and mid-sized businesses in the San Fernando Valley," said Congressman Cardenas in reference to last year's event, "Knowing just how critical small businesses are to our community and the U.S. economy."

Amanda Davies, program specialist at Valley, explained that companies such as Boeing are looking for younger workers and that this event is also a chance for high school students to experience a college environment.

Getting up close and personal with the iconic Hollywood sign

With a little planning and a short stroll, hikers can get a close look at the Hollywood sign and take a few photographs to boot.

By SAVANNAH SIMMONS
STAFF WRITER

If you're looking for an easy outdoor activity that will get your heart rate up, the hike to the Hollywood Sign is a super accessible, fun, and casual way to do so with a spectacular view at the end of the road.

The Hollywood Sign is an iconic part of Los Angeles that was first erected in 1923 reading HOLLYWOODLAND to advertise for a housing development company. It has since eliminated the LAND and now reads HOLLYWOOD, and is sought out by many tourists for the perfect selfie.

Getting to the

Hollywood Sign is fairly easy. Begin your journey by parking your car on Canyon Lake Drive right next to Lake Hollywood Park, where you'll see dogs running around, and people playing with their kids. Canyon Lake Drive turns into Mulholland Highway, which is the street you use to get to the hiking trail.

As you start walking, you will notice that you are in the middle of a residential neighborhood, so please remember to be courteous. Once that paved street ends, you'll see a large dirt trail with some signs that may make you want to turn around but don't hesitate, look closely and you will see a posted sign welcoming all

visitors to the trail.

The hike up to the view point is about 2.2 miles and will take around 45 minutes to reach the sign. Many people bring their dogs, some people run, and some bike the trail. Along the trail, there are opportunities for photographs and great conversations. Once at the top, you'll be behind the sign overlooking Lake Hollywood and if it's clear out, you'll be able to see downtown Los Angeles.

Make sure to pack water and snacks because you will break a sweat. Also, pick a time that's right for you, going early in the morning is perfect because of the cool temperature and great way to start off your day.

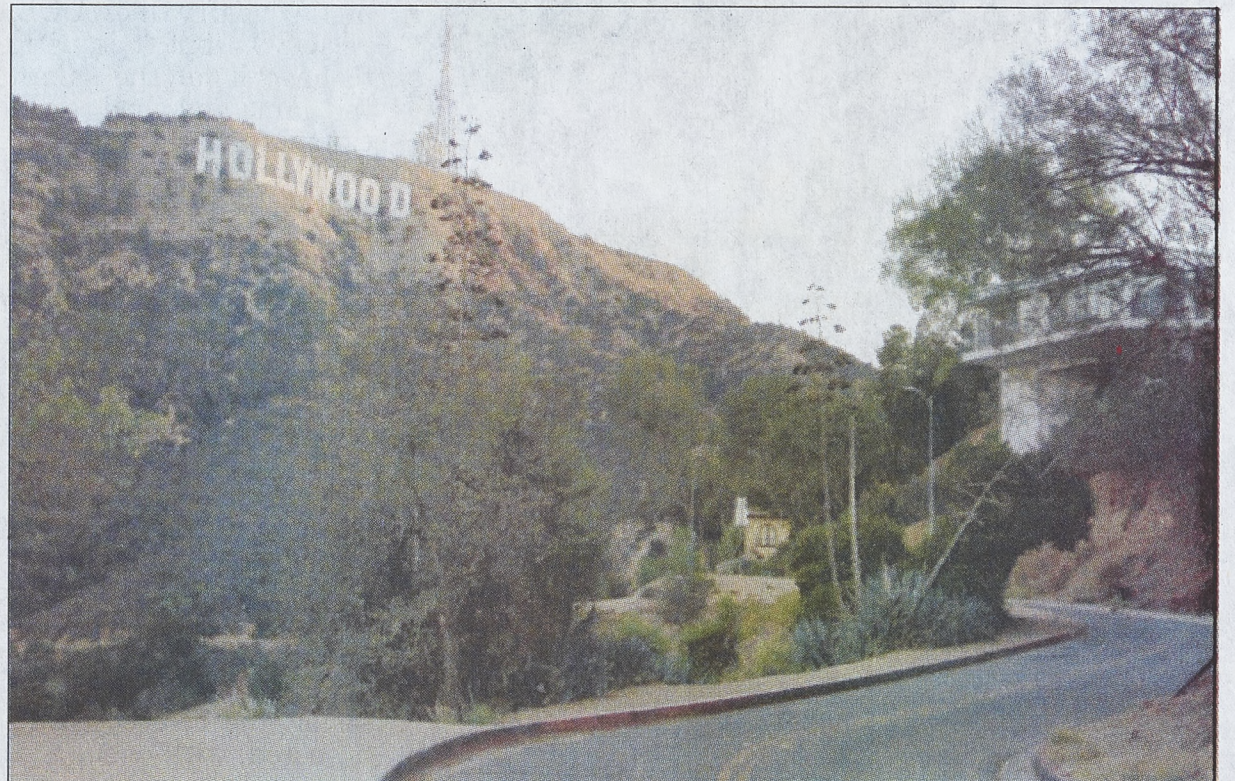


PHOTO BY /SEBASTIAN MINO-MBUCHELI

HIKE-Beautiful views and good exercise await those who take the hike to the famous Hollywood Sign.

SPORTS

KO High Boxing returns to Valley with Pro-am event



FILE PHOTO

By **HARRISON MCQUINN**
SPORTS EDITOR

The next big rumble comes to Valley College this October bringing with it celebrity appearances, alumni participants and a fistful of knockouts.

KO High Boxing's official fourth event will be hosted by Flava Flav in the South Gym at 3 p.m.

on Oct. 15. Students with ID will pay \$20 to get into the event that has featured the likes of Justin Bieber last year.

"It's crazy," said Marvin Columbus, founder of KO High Boxing. "People pay thousands to see boxing in Vegas. You're getting the same thing here for \$20."

The organization describes itself as the first

juvenile after-school program of its kind. With appearances at several high schools and colleges, KO is taking over Southern California.

The evening will feature one of Valley's own Emilio Rodriguez who is making his professional boxing debut this year. Nico Ali Walsh, grandson of the late Muhammad Ali, will also be partici-

pating.

The amateur bracket will last three rounds and require head-gear, no draws will be allowed. The professional boxers will skip the headgear, and will fight for four rounds, with the match ending in knockout or a decision.

The night will include a red carpet opening in front of the gym at 2:30 p.m.

MCQUINN'S PRESSBOX

Monarchs football continues to take knee

Monarchs team take a knee for their own reasons.



HARRISON MCQUINN
SPORTS EDITOR

It's been over a year since Colin Kaepernick first took a knee. He only had the support of two teammates that night in San Diego, but since then has gained momentum with the entire nation.

The Monarch's own football team is now kneeling during the National Anthem at home and away games.

The players joined the protest as early as last year according to Monarch receiver Romeo Gunt, but the team is divided. "It feels great to see everyone on different pages. It gives you perspectives," commented Gunt who said that approximately half of the roster takes a knee during the anthem with the most apparent goal of removing President Donald J. Trump from office.

A sea of mixed reactions filled the bleachers during a pregame kneeling at Monarch stadium in September. It is clear that the families of players are equally divided.

The coaching staff backs their players' right to protest despite not joining the protest.

The Star Spangled Banner has been protested as early as the late 60s

with Olympians Tommie Smith and John Carlos, but not many followed suit. Now at the pinnacle of the social media era, the lens of Twitter and Facebook magnify every gesture.

Kaepernick claimed wrongdoings against minorities were his call to action. As tensions rise at the White House, the narrative has shifted for many.

The contestable quarterback has expressed no clear endpoint for his protest, yet for many, including some Monarchs, the knee is a call for impeachment of President Donald Trump.

On the other side of the nation, figures refusing to kneel such as Alejandro Villanueva, the Steelers' offensive tackle who stood alone for the anthem back in September, are equally scattered on their reasons. For Villanueva, a former Army Ranger, it was an immense pressure from fellow veterans and a duty to honor the fallen, while others including President Trump himself claim it is disrespectful to the flag and the nation as a whole.

Dabo Swinney, coach of the Clemson Tigers, speculated at a press conference that, "it's [not] good to be a distraction to your team... or to use [them] as the platform."

With both sides flooded with several perspectives, the nation becomes even more separated in one of the most divisive periods in American history; yet, sports were meant to unite.

Monarchs take another shot to keep the Victory Bell at home



FILE PHOTO

Monarchs football takes the field against rival Pierce in a traditional battle over the Victory Bell.

beginning to collect dust in its third consecutive year in Monarch's hands, but Pierce (2-3) will have a chance to reclaim the trophy this Saturday at Valley.

"We want to keep it here," said Coach Vandiver. "Valley vs. Pierce is not as big a rivalry like UCLA vs. USC... but it is better to have it for the sake of the game and good competition."

The Victory Bell tradition dates back to the 40s where UCLA was gifted the bell by the school's alumni association before it was stolen by USC students, sparking the beginning of a historic rivalry. Although Valley's tradition does not go as far back, their inaugural game did take place 20 years later in 1965.

The Brahmas had held the bell for six years before losing it to Valley in 2015. It is covered in silver and colored frames adjusted with wheels for better mobilization with one smaller bell on top

with a bigger one below it. The schools begin to bump heads every year as the annual rumble approaches ranging from Twitter battles all the way to pre-game trash talk on the field. For an added level of intensity, the winner also gets to paint the bell in their school colors.

For the players leaving or transferring, it motivates them even further to beat Pierce and earn the memory of knowing they were a part of a team that beat Pierce and kept the bell on Valley's campus for another year.

"After their Valley days are gone, the ones staying will be motivated to work harder to keep the bell at Valley furthering the rivalry even more," said Coach Vandiver.

The pressure is on Valley whose record has fallen to 3-2 after consecutive losses to Victor Valley and Mt San Jacinto.

LACCD with a war going back decades.

With rivalry comes ritual and Valley (3-2) currently holds the most coveted tradition between the two schools; the Victory Bell. The Victory Bell is

By **FREDY VEGA**
STAFF WRITER

Valley College and Pierce College are two of the most well known football powerhouses in the

SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS

Valley's running back Dawson Shick caught a 37 yd pass from quarterback Kalawaia Judd with less than 2 minutes left in the game Saturday.

Eagles' quarterback Carson Wentz threw a career high 4 touchdowns in a 34-7 beatdown of the Cardinals.

Cody Bellinger blasted a home run and made the defensive play of the game when he barreled over the railing then into the Dodgers dugout nearly crushing Dave Roberts to catch the 3rd out of an inning.

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